

Attorney Docket No.: 66-12424

Claim Amendments:

1. (currently amended): A gate valve comprising:

an elongated body;

a fluid flow passage which extends generally longitudinally through the body and which includes at least a lateral first branch ~~connected to that is in~~ fluid communication with a longitudinal second branch;

a gate cavity which is formed in the body and which ~~communicates~~ is in fluid communication with both the first branch and the second branch;

a gate which is movably positioned in the gate cavity and which includes a first flow port that is connected to a second flow port; and

means for actuating the gate between an open position, in which the first flow port is aligned with the first branch and the second flow port is in fluid communication with the second branch, and a closed position, in which the first flow port is offset from the first branch;

wherein the gate further comprises a generally flat face which is adapted to seal the first branch from the gate cavity when the gate is in the closed position to thereby prevent the fluid from flowing between the first branch and the gate cavity; and

wherein the actuating means is disposed at least partially within a conduit that extends generally longitudinally through the body from the gate cavity.

2. (original): The gate valve of claim 1, wherein the second flow port is approximately perpendicular to the first flow port.

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3. (original): The gate valve of claim 2, wherein the gate comprises a third flow port which is connected approximately perpendicular to the second flow port and which is aligned with the second branch when the gate is in the open position.

4. (currently amended): The gate valve of claim 1, wherein the actuating means comprises:

a piston which is connected to the gate and which sealingly engages a the conduit ~~that extends from the gate~~; and

means for conveying hydraulic pressure to a first portion of the conduit to thereby move the gate in a first direction.

5. (original): The gate valve of claim 4, wherein the actuating means further comprises means for moving the gate in a second direction which is opposite to the first direction.

6. (original): The gate valve of claim 5, wherein the moving means comprises a mechanical biasing means.

7. (original): The gate valve of claim 5, wherein the moving means comprises means for conveying hydraulic pressure to a second portion of the conduit which is separated from the first portion of the conduit by the piston.

8. (canceled).

9. (canceled).

10. (canceled).

11. (canceled).

12. (canceled).

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13. (canceled).

14. (canceled).

15. (canceled).

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